



# St. Michael Catholic Parish

Where we celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples, and bring Christ to people.

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## *Seventh Sunday* IN ORDINARY TIME

February 19, 2017

A wide-angle photograph of a snowy landscape at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm orange glow over the snow-covered ground and pine trees. A frozen body of water reflects the colors of the sky. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

Love your enemies,  
that you may be children  
of your heavenly Father,  
for he makes the sun rise  
on the bad and the good.

**Matthew 5:44, 45**

## Mass Times

Mon-Fri:	7:00 am & 8:30 am
Wed:	7:00 pm (Spanish)
Saturday:	8:30 am
Saturday Vigil:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Sunday: 6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish), 6:00 pm

Sign Language: 1st Sun, 11:00 am  
Vietnamese: 4th Sun, 3:30 pm

## Confession

Saturday, in the Church  
9:00 am & 3:45 pm  
6:15 pm in Spanish  
1st & 3rd Wed, Convent Chapel, 2:30 pm

## Anointing of the Sick

1st Saturday after 8:30 am Mass or by appointment: 925-447-1585

## Eucharistic Adoration

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours access code, call 925-980-4826

## Clergy

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor  
Rev. Rafael Hinojosa, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. David Staal, Associate  
Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence  
Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired  
Rev. Deacon Rob Federle  
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# Sunday Readings

## Love Your Enemies

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus lays out many of his basic life teachings. Several of them are extraordinarily difficult for us to understand, much less put into practice. Two of these are the famous “turn the other cheek” and “love your enemy” admonitions. To understand what Jesus is saying and what it means to us today, we first need to understand the context in which Jesus is speaking.

He is addressing the Jews, the Chosen People. They have been given the truth about the one God and God’s commandments in the Law. God entered into a special relationship with them because God wanted them to be the means by which these truths were conveyed to the entire world. Many Jews in the first century, however, saw non-Jews, i.e. the Gentiles and especially the Romans, as enemies. They distanced themselves from the Gentiles and some fought against their Gentile oppressors. But Jesus calls the Jews to love their enemies—to love the very Gentiles who have lived an immoral life far from God and have inflicted so much suffering on the Jewish people.

One way of understanding what Jesus is saying about the need to love your enemy is to think of an iron bar. In order to bend it, you first must heat it. In the same way, if you want to move people and convert them, then you need to apply the heat of love. We can never change the world simply with the iron bar of stating the truth. The proclamation of the truth must be

imbued with love.

If we merely announce the truth about such things as abortion and marriage, but we do so without loving the people we are speaking to, then it won’t make much difference. They will not change. If we want to convert a pagan, or someone from the secular culture, then we must do so by first applying the radical kind of love Jesus proposes in his teachings.

## First Reading

**Take no revenge and cherish no grudge; love your neighbor as yourself. (Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18).**

Our passage, addressed to Moses, begins, 'Speak to the whole Israelite community and tell them: Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy.' This code expands on the Ten Commandments and describes the parameters of just relationships amongst the Israelites, as well as between the Israelites and the foreigners that entered their land. Leviticus 19:18 says, "Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD." It's understandable that an Israelite would interpret this to mean that although he was to love his neighbor, it was permissible to hate his enemy, as Jesus remarks in Matthew 5:43.

It's true that the Israelites were told to love foreigners, but only when they became resident aliens in the land of Israel. Those beyond the land were considered to be beyond the reach of the Law. The lack of specificity about how to treat those who weren't Israelites made this

# and Meditation

question worth posing to Jesus. “Be perfect,” Jesus says, just as Leviticus said, “Be holy.” That’s the end toward which God has always aimed: our holiness. A clear mark of holiness is love of neighbor, friend, and foreigner.

## Second Reading

**You are the temple of God, and holy (1 Corinthians 3:16-23).**

In this passage, St. Paul says that we are temples and that “if anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person.” This may at first sound like a threat of revenge against those who make themselves enemies of Christians. But if we compare this passage with 1 Corinthians 6:18-19, we could also suggest that it is a warning to Christians themselves not to desecrate their own bodily temples by sin. In Romans 12:1, Paul calls on Christians to “offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.” In so doing he completes the transference of the temple image to us. As Jesus’s body was both the temple and sacrifice of the New Covenant, so our bodies are both temples and sacrificial offerings

as part of our participation in that Covenant.

Talking about bodies being temples and sacrificial offerings might sound like nonsense to the worldly-wise. The world considers terms like “holiness” and “sacrifice” to be virtually meaningless. St. Paul counsels against that kind of worldly calculation. If that is wisdom, he warns, then we’d better be fools for Christ. Believing that Christ is the center and meaning of human history, we’d be foolish not to try to conform ourselves to his example.

## Gospel

**Offer no resistance; love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48).**

In this passage, the connection between the Torah, the Old Law, and the New Law in Christ is even more pronounced. Jesus says five times (the number of books of the Old Law) you have heard the commandment...” and then extends, tightens, or strengthens that law by phrasing it in a new commandment. Jesus is clearly acting as the voice of the Law as had Moses.

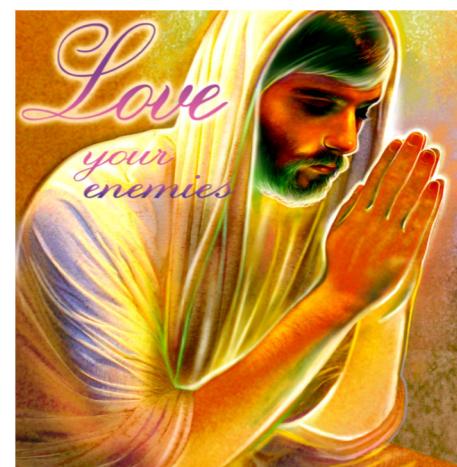
If we look at the sources for the commandments of the Old Law that Jesus cites, we see that he’s not just quoting Moses. In each case where Jesus is citing the Old Law, he makes reference to a direct command from God himself. The first two references are from the Ten Commandments, but the last three are from the Levitical code. Each of those commands in Leviticus closes with the phrase “I am the Lord” or “I, the Lord, am your God.” By citing and then changing these commands of Yahweh, Jesus is implicitly saying the same thing, “I am the Lord.” Only the Lord could change his law. Matthew thereby shows us that Jesus isn’t merely a new Moses, but the God who spoke through Moses and who has the authority to promulgate a New Law.

## Meditation

Reflect for a moment on what Jesus himself did when he was arrested and crucified. What does his example mean for you right now, today, in your life? During this week, reread the Gospel and take some time to pray about how this can apply to you and your family.

## DIGGING DEEPER: Going Two Miles

According to Roman military law, soldiers had permission to force civilians to carry equipment or even personal items for one Roman mile (4854 feet). This sheds light on Jesus’s teaching about going for two miles. For a Jew in the first century, this teaching would be shocking. It meant that if a Jew was coerced into that service by a Roman soldier, he or she should perform an act of generosity and service for him and go twice as far as required. Jesus’s teaching inspires us today to perform extra acts of love, service and kindness toward those who frustrate us or hurt us—those “enemies” in our lives whom we may rather avoid.



# Prayers & Devotion

## Assist Me, Holy Spirit

Assist me, O Holy Spirit, in all my trials of life, enlighten me in my ignorance, advise me in my doubts, strengthen me in my weakness, help me in all my needs, protect me in temptations and console me in afflictions. And help me to go the extra mile, to love, serve and forgive my enemies.

Graciously hear me, O Holy Spirit, and pour your light into my heart, my soul, and my mind.

Amen.

## Special Intentions

For the repose of the souls of Maria Angelica Barnett, Dorothy (Alice) Behrends, Marie Candaux, Roberto Gonzalez and Pedro P. Ledezma.

For the parishioners who have requested prayers for healing of their marriages and their families.

For our Adult Confirmation Candidates who will be sealed with the Holy Spirit at the Cathedral of Christ the Light this weekend.



## Have an Unforgettable Lent

We all know the things that make us happy, but we don't always do them. Lent is an opportunity to change that. This year we invite you to do something different. Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based email program by Dynamic Catholic.

## Your Ash Wednesday Gift Bag

On Ash Wednesday, St Michael has a gift for you to help you get the most out of the Lenten season. You will receive the following:

- 1) Matthew Kelly's best selling book Resisting Happiness, that goes along with the video-based email program Best Lent Ever.
- 2) A simple daily devotional pamphlet for all the days in Lent.
- 3) Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl for daily financial sacrificial offerings.
- 4) St Michael Parish Lent Brochure with important dates and events.

If you would prefer to use the Little Black book for Lent, please stop by the church office.

*One gift bag per family, please.*

# Announcements & Reminders

## Hey, Ring That Bell!

We have currently have ONE opening for a ringer in the Grace Notes Bell Choir. Is it you?

If you are interested, you only need to be able to read music and be available to rehearse Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm. We play at Mass two to three times per month. We will teach you the basic techniques. Contact JaNet Hancock at 925-292-5071.

## Collection Reports

1/29/17 Collection: \$17,194.57

2/5/17 Collection: \$21,032.30

2/12/17 Collection: \$22,657.45

Average Collection: \$22,067.67

Maintenance to Date: \$7,021.00

Faith Direct for January:  
\$12,219.00

## St. Michael School Auction & Wine Tasting



**Saturday, February 25, 2017 at Robert Livermore Community Center from 6:00 - 10:00 pm with a VIP Reception from 5:30 - 6:00 pm.**  
Proceeds benefit St Michael School

- Enjoy food pairings with award winning wines and beers poured by representatives from local wineries and craft breweries
- Dessert Bar
- Wine Pull and Heads or Tails Game with Cash Prize
- Oscar Nominee Pool with Cash Prize
- Silent & Live Auction

Ticket Prices: \$60 per person/\$75 for VIP (VIP Ticket includes champagne reception from 5:30-6:00 pm). Buy your tickets at [smsliv.org](http://smsliv.org) or at the school office or contact Vanessa Gallo at [vanessa@galocommunications.com](mailto:vanessa@galocommunications.com) or 925-963-7958.

## Holding Hands During the Our Father at Mass

### A Message from Fr. Van

The Holy See stated that holding hands at Mass during the Our Father 'is a liturgical gesture introduced spontaneously but on personal initiative; it is not in the rubrics' . . . For this reason, no one can be required to hold hands during the Our Father."

When we pray the Our Father at Mass, we are at the moment of preparing for a true union with Christ and each other in the Eucharist. The act of holding hands has arisen from the Protestant communities where they do not have the unity of Christ's body, blood, soul and divinity. ***Therefore, the practice of holding hands during the Our Father is to be discouraged.***

The Holy Mass is not a private devotion, but rather a liturgy—a prescribed and protected form of communal worship. During private prayer outside of Mass, the faithful are permitted to use forms of prayer posture that they wish.



# This Week

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday 2/18

8:30am Larry Fauque  
5:00pm Lourdes Kay  
and Peter Hnatow †  
7:00 pm Maria Sandoval †

### Sunday 2/19

6:45am Melanie Maher †  
8:00am Jill Stager †  
9:30am The Tighe Family  
11:00am Eulalio Solon †  
12:30pm Alice & Nick Sanchez †  
6:00 pm Patrick Riley †  
and Christopher Guadagnini

### Monday 2/20

8:30am Fernando & Trifona Anical †  
and Roberto B. Martinez

### Tuesday 2/21

7:00am The Souls in Purgatory and  
Jerry and Violet Stratman  
8:30am Horacio Siri †

### Wednesday 2/22

7:00am Janice C. Alvarez †  
8:30am Lorraine Bumb †  
7:00pm The souls of the Orlando  
tragedy & Michael Jackson †

### Thursday 2/23

7:00 am Elizabeth Ezekwem and  
Tommy Ketterhagen †  
8:30 am Celina Ezekwem †

### Friday 2/24

7:00am Fahnhorst Family and  
Jay Sung Chun †  
8:30am Jime Bing and Helen, Charles &  
Skip Kelsey †

### Saturday 2/25

8:30am Ester Solon †  
5:00pm Donald G. Gardner †  
7:00 pm Enrique Rosales †

### Monday, Feb 20

Parish Offices Closed for Presidents Day  
No 7:00 am Mass

**33-Day Consecration to Jesus through Mary** begins. Contact Jon Hamilton at IHNmotors@gmail.com or Pam Hamilton at pacatham@gmail.com

### Friday, Feb 24

**Golden Friends Prayer & Lunch** at 10:30 am at the Rock House Grill. Contact Wilma 925-447-8198.

### Next Weekend

Eucharistic Adoration Sign Up Weekend at all Masses

**St Michael School 58th Annual Wine Tasting Gala & Auction** on Saturday at Robert Livermore Community Center. Contact Vanessa Gallo at 925-963-7958

**Homebound Ministry Training** on Sat, Feb 25 from 2-4 pm Convent Chapel. This training/certification session is required for both current and prospective ministers for the home bound. Contact: Lien Celi 925-325-9117.

### Readings and Special Observations

**Monday: Presidents' Day;** Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29

**Tuesday: St. Peter Damian;** Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37

**Wednesday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle;** 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

**Thursday: St. Polycarp;** Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50

**Friday:** Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12

**Saturday:** Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16

# Upcoming Events

## Adoration Sign Up Weekend

**Feb 25-26 & March 4-5**

A perfect Lenten practice is to sign up for a regular hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Sign up at Mass on the weekends of Feb 25-26 and March 4-5

## 58th Annual Wine Tasting Gala & Auction!

**Saturday, February 25th**

Come to St Michael School's biggest fundraising gala at Robert Livermore Community Center on Feb 25. Purchase tickets online at [www.smsliv.org](http://www.smsliv.org) or at St. Michael School or parish offices. Contact: Vanessa Gallo at 925-963-7958

## St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

**Sat, March 18 at 6:00 pm  
St Charles**

Grief Support Ministry invites you to fun and friendship as we toast Ireland's favorite saint. Dinner includes corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, salad, rolls, dessert, coffee, tea, wine, soft drinks, and Irish Coffee. Tickets are \$12 each and will be sold by mail only, they sell out fast. Watch for the order form fliers after Mass.

## Parish Lenten Mission & Reconciliation

Monday, March 20 at 7:00 pm (English) with Fr. Mark Mannion  
Tuesday, March 21 at 7:00 pm (Spanish) with Fr. Rafael Hinojosa

## Centennial Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes

**September 5-13**

Fr Van Dinh and Fr Neal Clemens invite you to a once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage to Fatima during the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of our Blessed Mother - and also the 100th anniversary of our church! This is a time to rekindle our faith as we visit the tomb of St Teresa of Avila, the birthplace of St Bernadette and the healing waters of Lourdes. The all-inclusive cost is \$3,200 per person. A \$200 deposit is due by May 13. For details and reservations, call Scott Scaria at 860-289-2606.

## Parish Centennial Photo Directory

Our Centennial Photo Directory just wouldn't be the same without your picture! New portrait sittings in June and July have opened. The sitting is free, and you will receive a free 8x10 and a copy of the directory when it comes out.

To book your portrait sitting, visit the parish website and click the photo directory image [StMichaelLivermore.com](http://StMichaelLivermore.com).

For more information, please call Corry Painter at 925-577-9939.



**Mass with Ashes**

7:00 am, 8:30 am, 9:30 am (School Mass) and 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm (Spanish)

**Service with Ashes only (no Mass)**

12:15 pm and 3:15 pm



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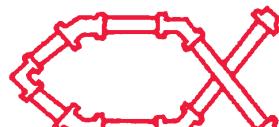
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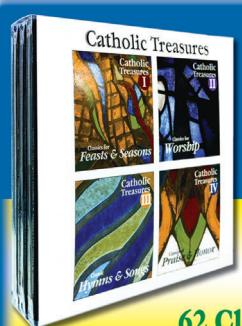
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# Noticias Parroquiales

## Tomarse de la Mano Durante el Padre Nuestro en Misa

La Santa Sede ha declarado que la celebración de las misas durante el Padre Nuestro es un gesto litúrgico introducido espontáneamente pero por iniciativa personal; No está en las rúbricas "... Por esta razón, nadie puede ser obligado a tomarse de las manos durante el Padre Nuestro".

Cuando oramos al Padre Nuestro en la Misa, estamos en el momento de prepararnos para una verdadera unión con Cristo y unos con otros en la Eucaristía. El acto de tomarse de la mano ha surgido de las comunidades protestantes donde no tienen la uni-

dad del cuerpo de Cristo, la sangre, el alma y la divinidad. Por lo tanto, la práctica de tomarse de la mano durante el Padre Nuestro es desalentarse.

La Santa Misa no es una devoción privada, sino una liturgia, una forma prescrita y protegida de culto comunitario. Durante la oración privada fuera de la Misa, se permite a los fieles usar las formas de postura de oración que ellos desean.



## Proyectos para Padres de Familia

**Marzo 7, 2017 a Marzo 30, 2017, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

Un programa de 12 semanas que se lleva acabo en el salón grande de la escuela East Ave. Especial para padres con hijos en la adolescencia o con temperamento fuerte. Con éste programa usted Logrará: Motivar a sus hijos hacia el éxito académico. Prevenir o mejorar los problemas de drogas, alcohol y pandillas. Formar grupos de apoyo. Mejorar la comunicación en la familia.

Possiblemente ofreceremos el grupo para adolescentes "Keepin' It Real"

Inscripciones en Horizons Family Counseling (925) 371-4747  
Precio: \$60 por persona , \$100 por pareja

## Directorio de Fotos del Centenario de la Parroquia

Nuestro directorio de fotos Centennial no sería lo mismo sin su foto! Se han abierto nuevos retratos en junio y julio. La sesión es gratuita, y usted recibirá un 8x10 libre y una copia del directorio cuando salga.

Para reservar su sesión de retrato, visite el sitio web de la parroquia y haga clic en la imagen del directorio de fotos StMichaelLivermore.com/Espanol.

## Informes de recaudación

1/29/17 Recaudación: \$ 17,194.57  
2/5/17 Recaudación: \$ 21,032.30  
2/12/17 Colección:  
Colección media:  
Mantenimiento hasta la fecha: \$ 5,202.00

Faith Direct para Enero - \$ 12,219.00

## Consagración a Jesús a través de María 20 de Febrero

Únanse a nosotros mientras preparamos nuestros corazones para la consagración a Jesús a través de María. De los escritos de San Luis de Montfort recitamos oraciones sencillas por 33 días (del 20 de febrero al 24 de marzo) y concluimos con una Consagración comunal el 25 de marzo, Fiesta de la Anunciación del SEÑOR. Excelente ejercicio cuares mal. Póngase en contacto con Jon Hamilton en IHNmotors@gmail.com o Pam Hamilton en pacatham@gmail.com.

## Retiro Juvenil 18 de Marzo en Convento de Iglesia

Todos los jóvenes entre las edades de 16 a 25 años están invitados a vivir el retiro juvenil que se llevará a cabo en nuestra iglesia. El encuentro comenzara a las 8 de la mañana y terminara con misa de 7pm. Los Esperamos!

Más información llamar o mandar mensaje de texto a Brenda 1(510)691-2864

## Retiro de Servidores 24 a 26 de Marzo

Todos los servidores de nuestra parroquia de San Miguel están cordialmente invitados a asistir a nuestro retiro de servidores. Este comenzara el viernes 24 de marzo en misa de sanción a las 7pm. El sábado , segundo día comenzara a las 8am y terminara en misa de 7pm. Por ultimo el tercer día, domingo comenzara a las 8am y terminara con misa de 12:30. Los esperamos!



# La Parroquia de San Miguel

En la Parroquia de San Miguel nosotros como mission celebramos los sacramentos, formamos discipulos, y llevamos a Cristo a la comunidad.

458 Maple St  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-447-1585  
StMichaelLivermore.com



## 19 de febrero de 2017 Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

### SIN PEDIR LO IMPOSIBLE

La última frase del Evangelio de hoy puede parecer confusa: "sean perfectos, como su Padre celestial es perfecto". "Perfecto" algunas veces se le imagina como sin error, así como un diamante cortado a la perfección. Pero esta palabra, en la traducción en griego de la Biblia de hace muchos siglos, y que como se usa en el Nuevo Testamento significa algo totalmente diferente: lograr cierta madurez, ser una persona integra o saludable. Jesús no nos pide ser perfectos, ni tampoco él quiere decírnos: "Bueno, eso es imposible, ¿por qué molestarse?" Él está invitándonos a crecer en una madurez cristiana. Para muchos de nosotros, las palabras de Jesús en el Evangelio de hoy son muy desafiantes. Necesitamos resistir la tentación de evadir su desafío llamándolo imposible.

### RESISTIENDO EL MAL

La enseñanza de Jesús en los primeros versos del Evangelio de hoy también ha confundido a muchos. Algunos interpretan a Jesús de decir que no debemos resistir el mal, sino al contrario ser completamente imposibles. Sin embargo, la Ley de Moisés llamó a Israel vigorosamente a resistir el mal. Dentro de esta sección del Sermón de la Montaña, podemos ver cómo Jesús interpretó la Ley "no para suprimirla sino para llevarla a su pleno cumplimiento" (Mateo 5:17). Jesús enseñó que la resistencia violenta hacia el opresor tiende a sostener y expandir la forma de odio y maldad. La violencia engendra nueva violencia. Pero aquellos que ponen la otra mejilla, dan su abrigo, o caminan una milla más, resisten el mal al exponerlo dentro del corazón de la persona hacedora de mal. Jesús no fue ingenuo en cuanto al mal y la violencia. De hecho, él experimentó ambos en su muerte. En la cruz, Jesús de manera radical resistió el mal y mani-



festó su impotencia. En la cruz, él amó a sus enemigos y oró por aquellos que lo persiguieron. Así como Jesús perdonó a sus enemigos, él dio testimonio de la Buena Nueva que él predicó, que Dios nos ama y nos perdona. Cuando perdonamos y amamos a nuestros enemigos, nos liberamos del odio que hay en nuestros corazones. La fuerza del mal se desvanece y un camino se abre para terminar sus formas de violencia y opresión.



Para obtener información en español sobre eventos y noticias de nuestra parroquia.

Si estan interesados en agregar o presentar un artículo en el boletín en español, por favor contactar a Brenda Zavala 510-691-2864